

## Friends of the Atascadero Library

August – September 2011

[www.atascaderofriendsofthelibrary.org](http://www.atascaderofriendsofthelibrary.org)

### *NEWSLETTER*

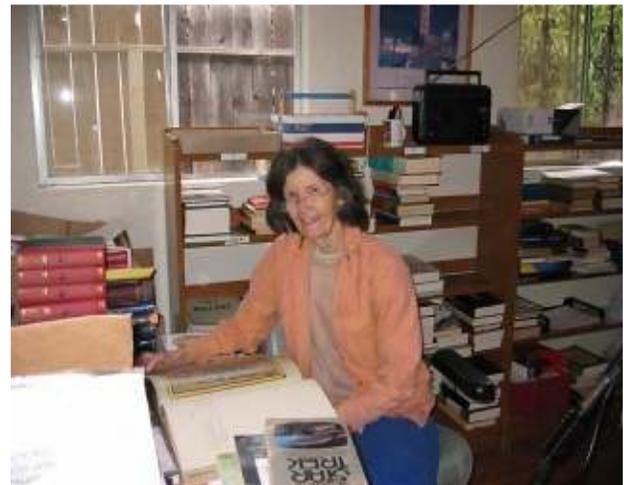
#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Alice Rew has deep roots in Atascadero, beginning with her grandfather, who brought his family to Atascadero in 1921, intrigued by EG Lewis' brochures describing a new utopian community. The family liked what they saw and agreed to make Atascadero their home. Alice was born and raised here, attending schools in Atascadero, then going to Cal Poly and San Jose State. Many of you know her as the librarian at the high school, where for 36 years she introduced children to the pleasures of reading and to the intricacies of research. By the time she retired in 1999, hundreds of children had been touched by her love of books.

As a book lover, it was a natural move for Alice to join the Friends of the Library Board, which she did in 1988. She has been an active member since, including serving as President for 3 years, as assistant to the Treasurer, and as an oral historian of the Board's activities. For many years, she has managed the Book House, the location of FOL's bi-monthly book sale, and under her direction, the Book House has become a well-organized, pleasant setting that generates revenue for the expansion of the library. She and her crew have spent hundreds and hundreds of hours classifying and arranging books and she seems to know the location and the value of every book in the Book House.

As a long-time Board member, Alice is one of the people responsible for the wise investment of the expansion funds that have been raised over the years, resulting in a war chest of \$1 million dollars by the time the current expansion campaign began, in 2009. This significant sum gave a credible start to our

campaign and has enabled us to move forward successfully. Now the campaign is well underway, and in the partnership with the county, we are the owners of a terrific new building, destined to be the flag ship library for the north county and an important part of downtown Atascadero.



Alice in the Book House

And Alice continues to make it possible for Atascadero to have the wonderful library that it deserves. In December, 2010, she made a donation of \$50,000 to the expansion campaign. And in June of this year, she made another \$50,000 donation. In making these generous gifts, Alice notes that she wants to be able to see and to participate in the project that her gifts have made possible. We are grateful to Alice, and I think it is safe to say, we are awestruck. And the woman who has been pre-eminent in Atascadero libraries for well over 40 years has ensured that our library will be pre-eminent for years to come.

Just in →

Alice has agreed to allow us to name the Book Sale area in the new library in her honor, a fitting Tribute to an outstanding Book Woman!



Grenda Ernst and Deborah at the retirement party

We are sad to say goodbye to our Branch Manager, Deborah Schlanser, who retired in June. Deborah worked closely with the Board, to help us further the expansion campaign, and just as importantly, to develop a budget for the FOL contribution to the day-to-day operation of the library. The library was dear to her heart and Deborah will stay involved and supportive as a civilian. And this is a good place to remind you that the money that FOL contributes to the day-to-day operation of the library comes from your membership dues. The children's programs, adult reading programs, express books, miscellaneous supplies; all are paid for by dues. All memberships renew on July 1 so please make sure that yours is up to date. If you don't know whether you need to renew, go on line to [atascaderofriendsofthelibrary.org](http://atascaderofriendsofthelibrary.org) and click on the "Contact Us" button, then "Send Us a Comment" with your question.

Grenda Ernst, President

## "Open the Doors" Campaign

Thanks to our many generous donors, we have now reached 25% of our \$1 million fundraising goal! Some of our Founders and other large donors gathered for a photo at the Capistrano site in late June. The photo appeared in local papers in July; if you missed it, it's on our home page. In June we mailed close to 200 appeal letters asking local residents to become Founders by taking the Allan Challenge—donating \$100/month for ten months. Responses to that appeal are still arriving. If you did not receive an appeal letter, but want to donate to the Allan Challenge, we welcome your contribution. We now have more than 100 local residents and groups that have donated \$1000 or more

since the campaign began—but we need more. The best time to donate is now. Why? We have many visitors to the donor page on our Web site, and library visitors see the display of Founders prepared by volunteer **Ruth Zachary**. These people are encouraged to donate when they discover that their friends and neighbors have become donors. In addition, having a large base of community funding shows the foundations we are applying to, that we are a serious campaign worthy of their support.

More great news—due to the generosity of local residents we have two wonderful fall benefits where both the entertainment and the site have been donated. For several years **Anet and Charley Carlin** have offered us the proceeds from a production at their Brickyard Theatre. This year's play is a comedy, *Clean House*, and the date is Saturday, September 10. Tickets are now on sale at the library for \$35.

Later this fall celebrated local baritone **Richard Summers** will donate his talents for two special concerts. He will be joined by other vocalists and musicians in a fabulous setting, the spacious new home of **Rex and Betty Hendrix**—which has also been donated for this benefit. This don't-miss event will occur on Sunday, November 6, with concerts at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets will be on sale in September for \$60. Wine and appetizers are included.



**Save the Date! – November 6, 2011**

Thanks to the community groups who have supported our campaign this spring, especially the **MOMS Club** and **Atascadero Kiwanis** and the **Atascadero Elks--** and to the many individuals who donate, volunteer, and attend events. If we continue to pull together, we will open the doors of a new Atascadero Library, creating a functional, beautiful space that will enrich our community for decades.

Eileen O'Grady, Vice President

**UPDATE**  
**“OPEN THE DOORS”**  
**CAMPAIGN**  
**\$ 395,277 SINCE 2009**

### **Monthly donations, June and July 2011**

Alice Jones, Cynthia Gaw, Jeanne & Carl Robbins  
Diane & John Lehman, Sue & Jack Hayes  
Janet and Jim Stecher, Cathi Powers,  
Eileen and Lon Allan,  
Anonymous, In Honor of Dorothy Hibbard,  
Judy Cleary and Steve Roehrenbeck,  
Nick and Gina Riesz, Alice Rew, Audrey Hooper,  
Jill and Don Stegman, Ted and Terry Miles,  
Ron & Lynn Ayers, Janet and Jim Stecher,  
Ariane Leiter and Jerry James  
Barbara and Ray Weymann, Vivian and Ed Johnrud  
Kathy McCarey, Barbara Baranek,  
Bettina and Alvin Salter, Jose and Judith Magonacelaya  
Janet and Larry Price,  
Janet and Larry Price in memory of Marvin and Rita  
Blum  
Margaret Bullock, Ravenous Readers, Moms Club,  
Kiwanis, Sarah Brainan, Ruth and Cecil When,  
Robert and Virginia Power

**We thank all our donors for their support of the  
Atascadero Library.**

## **New Members**

**We welcome the following new members:**

Jerry James  
Ariane Leiter  
Jason Kirkpatrick

## **Branch Musings**

by  
**Brian Coburn**

As usual, things are bustling here at the Atascadero Library. Our big melancholy news was bidding a fond farewell to our now retired Branch Manager, Deborah Schlanser, as she enjoys her much deserved retirement. Yes, after 28 years of service to the county, Deborah joined the ranks of her fellow serene librarian retirees. Deborah's final day was Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. I appreciated Deborah's relaxed, friendly and fair-minded management style. She will certainly be missed!

In the meantime, until we have a permanent Branch Manager, it's reassuring to having Margaret Esther, the Assistant Library Director, helping out on Tuesdays and Fridays here at the Atascadero Library, to steer us to a new transition. Margaret will be attending the Friends' monthly meetings discussing, among other things, building issues for the new library site. These are exciting times for the library!

Keep in mind, though, budget times are lean. The county library's materials budget, out of which we purchase books and audiovisual materials, has been cut by 25% from the last fiscal year. Also, due to a decrease in state funding for our Black Gold Library Cooperative, request fees for holds increased to \$1.00 effective 7/7/11. On the upside, the circulation figures keep rising; 3.7 % percent change over last year. Over 354, 000 items were checked out in 2010 through 2011 at the Atascadero Library alone. Whew, I'm tired just thinking about it! Budget cycles come and go and hopefully in the not-too-distant future things will improve -- being a "glass half full" kind of person that I am. Time will tell.

Brian Coburn, Reference Librarian

## YOUTH SERVICES

by

Joan Bloomfield, Youth Services Librarian

This has been the busiest summer I can ever remember in the children's department. The Summer Reading Program has had a huge response. As of July 16th, some of the following results are:

	Signups	Completions
Teens (6th-12th grade)	188	19
Kids (ages 2–fifth grade)	572	73

All the performances held at the Colony Park were well attended with lots of audience participation. The average attendance was 120.

These programs were sponsored by the City Of Atascadero and the Friends of the Library.

We are grateful to all the sponsors for their contributions including a book for each finisher, book bag and other prizes.

Thank you to the Foundation for SLO Public Libraries, Cloud Star, Altrusa International de Cinco Ciudades, Altrusa International of San Luis Obispo, and the Friends of the Library organizations throughout our county, Cloud Star, Central Coast Gymnastics, Chili's, Home Town Buffet, Applebee's, Legoland, Taste Freez, Performance Athletics, Round Table Pizza, Central Coast Pizza, In 'n Out, SLO Children's Museum, and more.

### YOUTH SERVICES—PROGRAMS

**These programs to be held at the Atascadero Library in the Martin Polin Community Room unless otherwise indicated**

#### PRE-SCHOOL STORYTIME

**Wednesdays, 10.30 AM – Ages 3 – 6**

Join us for this half-hour session of stories, songs, finger plays and a monthly craft, beginning September 14, 2011.

**Signups are not required for this free program.**

For information, call Joan at 461-6163.

#### TODDLER TALES

**Thursdays 10:30 am Ages 18 months- 3 years old**

**Limit: 15 toddlers**

**Pre-registration is required and begins on August 27, 2011.**

**Priority is given to children already in the program or on the waiting list.**

This fall session is every Thursday from September 15 through December 1.

Toddlers and their caregivers will enjoy this lively 20-minute session. Each child and his or her caregiver will interact in a variety of positive ways.

This includes participating in stories, songs, movement, nursery rhymes and finger plays.

A variety of other special events are held each month at the library. Check the children's event board, teen area, local newspapers and radio/TV stations and [www.slolibrary.org](http://www.slolibrary.org) website for updates. All programs are held in the Martin Polin Community Room at no charge to the public, unless otherwise noted. They are sponsored by the Atascadero Friends of the Library.

For more information, call Joan at 461-6163.

### YOUTH SPECIAL EVENTS

#### **Read, Sing and Dance Along with Melissa Green**

Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 pm

Family Concert for ages 2 and older

**Location: Colony Park Community Center  
5599 Traffic Way, Atascadero.**

This lively concert features interactive pop-folk music from Melissa Green's first and second albums and sing-along picture books including Melissa's book "The Seahorse Song." As a former pre-school teacher, Melissa's songs include counting and coordination and inspire kids to use their imagination. Melissa performed at the Atascadero Library in February 2011. Her high energy will once again get everyone up on their feet.

This program is sponsored by Atascadero Friends of the Library and the City of Atascadero.

#### **Manga Drawing Workshop**

**with Artist Irene Flores.**

Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 3:15-5:15 pm

Ages: 11 and older

Location: **Atascadero Library**

**Space is limited. Signups are not required.**

This tween/teen program provides an opportunity to work with one of Tokyo Pop's most well-known illustrators. Irene Flores, illustrator of the "Mark of the Succubus" series and "Shojo Fashion Manga at School"—an instructional book on drawing anime characters, will share ideas on setting up and drawing comics as a sequential art...telling a story. She has another drawing book that will be coming out soon. It is recommended that participants bring sketchbooks, pen/pencil. Some paper and pencils will be provided. Books will be available for sale after the program.

**Financial Statement**  
**RABO Bank Checking Account**  
**May1 – June 30, 2011**

<b>Income:</b>	\$
Machines, magazines books:	
Lobby Sales	1,345
Book Sales	1,031
Membership	190
T-shirts	27
Total	<u>2,593</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Children's Programs	5,738
Adult Programs	650
Postage	18
PG&E	9
Fund raising	4
Printing	186
Administration	79
Total	<u>6,684</u>
Balance-	<u>(4,091)</u>

Darlene Brainard, Treasurer

# Book Sale!



**Friday, August 12, 2011**  
**From 6 to 8 PM**

**(for members only)**

**Saturday, August 13, 2011**

**From 9 AM to 2 PM**

**At the Book House**

**(behind the Library)**

We have a great selection of novels,  
 Romance, Mystery, SiFi, Biographies  
 Adventures, many non-fiction books.

Many Childrens Books

Video and Audio Cassettes

Books on Tape or CD

CDs and DVDs

Hundreds of soft cover books!

*All Proceeds will benefit the  
 Atascadero Library*

## Lobby Sales

>Kiosk and Silent Auction<

Help "Open the Doors" and buy  
 some books for your summer reading  
 Listen to a CD or watch a movie on a DVD  
 We are open whenever the Library is open  
 and the prices are right.  
 You can pay at the circulation desk around  
 the corner.

The monthly Silent Auction is doing well  
 but needs more bidders and also some  
 more donations that can be auctioned off!  
 Check with Melanie if you have any items  
 or if you need further information.

*All Proceeds will benefit the Library*



## Ballroom Dance For Fun

<i>Dance Parties</i>	<i>Swing, Foxtrot, Waltz</i>
<i>Group Lessons</i>	<i>Cha-Cha-Cha, Rumba</i>
<i>Private Lessons</i>	<i>Samba, Tango, Salsa</i>

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